

square or rectangular in shape (although any shape may be utilized), may have rounded corners, and comprises holes throughout to ultimately form the desired protrusions. Such holes may be any shape, such as circular, polygonal, oval, elliptical, lobed, or the like, and preferably, such holes are substantially circular or rounded in shape (at the die surface) and cylindrical as well (i.e., circular on both surfaces with the same shape throughout the die from one surface to the other). Furthermore, such a die may also be utilized in an in-line process wherein there is no need to hand place the backing sheet over the die itself. Also, a die, plate, belt pad, or the like may be placed below the rubber to be vulcanized to form protrusion on the top and/or bottom of the mat. The preferred procedure is outlined more particularly below. --

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Page 20, lines 13 – 15, replace with ✓

--FIG. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view illustration of the composite of platen, platen liner, conveyor belt, and floor mat as described in the above referenced U.S. Patent application serial number 09/405,883, now U.S. Patent No. 6,303,068. --

REMARKS

Applicant notes that U.S. Patent Applications 09/374,321 and 09/374,707 issued as U.S. Patent Nos. 6,296,919 and 6,340,514, respectively.

Should any matter of form or language stand in the way of allowance of the present application, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone conference to resolve such issues.